

What is Claimed:

Sub B+C1
2 1. A system for providing releasable engagement between two structures, said system comprising:

3 a stud extending outwardly from one of said structures along an
4 axis, said stud having an outer surface oriented at an angle to said axis; and

5 a resilient member positioned adjacent a surface of the other one of
6 said structures, said resilient member having a substantially torroidal configuration, an
7 outer surface contacting said surface of said structure to prevent movement of said outer
8 surface radially outwardly, and an inner surface movable radially outwardly;

9 said torroidal configuration of said resilient member defining an
10 opening smaller than said stud, and said opening of said resilient member being
11 configured to expand radially outwardly to permit passage of said stud, said resilient
12 member being configured to engage said surface of said stud for releasable engagement
13 of said stud, thereby providing releasable engagement between said structures.

1 2. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein one of said structures
2 comprises a frame.

1 3. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said stud is mounted on
2 said frame.

1 Sub B2 4. ~~The system as recited in claim 1, wherein one of said structures~~
2 ~~comprises a door.~~

1 5. The system as recited in claim 4, wherein said resilient member is
2 positioned adjacent a surface of said door.

1 6. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said stud is substantially
2 cylindrical.

1 Sub B2 7. ~~The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said surface defines a~~
2 ~~groove that extends about a periphery of said stud.~~

1 8. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said resilient member
2 comprises a radial spring.

1 9. The system as recited in claim 1, further comprising means
2 positioned adjacent said resilient member for urging said stud outwardly from said
3 resilient member.

1 10. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein said urging means
2 comprises a button positioned for movement along said axis of said stud to urge said
3 stud out from said resilient member along said axis.

1 11. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein said urging means
2 further comprises a surface configured to be gripped as said button is depressed to
3 facilitate disengagement of said stud from said resilient member.

1 12. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein said urging means
2 comprises a lever positioned to urge said stud out from said resilient member along said
3 axis of said stud.

1 13. The system as recited in claim 12, wherein said lever is pivotally
2 mounted to said structure such that an end portion of said lever is oriented to contact an
3 end surface of said stud and an opposite end portion of said lever is configured to be
4 gripped for pivotal movement of said lever to facilitate disengagement of said stud from
5 said resilient member.

1 Sub A3
2 B2C714. A system for providing releasable engagement between two
3 structures and for maintaining a predetermined gap between said structures, said system
comprising:

4 a substantially cylindrical stud mounted on one of said structures
5 and extending outwardly therefrom along an axis, said stud having a groove extending
6 about a periphery of said stud at an angle to said axis of said stud; and

7 a radial spring positioned adjacent a surface of the other one of said
8 structures, said radial spring having an outer surface contacting said surface of said
9 structure to prevent movement of said outer surface radially outwardly with respect to

said axis of said stud, said radial spring also having an inner surface movable radially outwardly with respect to said axis of said stud;

said inner surface of said radial spring defining an inner diameter smaller than the maximum diameter of said stud when said radial spring is relaxed, and said inner surface being configured to expand radially outwardly to permit passage of said stud when said radial spring is expanded, said radial spring being configured to engage said groove of said stud for releasable engagement of said stud, thereby providing releasable engagement between said structures, and thereby maintaining said predetermined gap between said structures.

15. The system as recited in claim 14, one of said structures comprising a frame and the other one of said structures comprising a door, said stud being mounted on said frame and said radial spring being positioned adjacent a surface of said door.

16. The system as recited in claim 14, further comprising a button positioned for movement along said axis of said stud to urge said stud out from said resilient member along said axis.

17. The system as recited in claim 16, further comprising a surface configured to be gripped as said button is depressed to facilitate disengagement of said stud from said resilient member.

18. The system as recited in claim 14, further comprising a lever pivotally mounted to said structure such that an end portion of said lever is oriented to contact an end surface of said stud and an opposite end portion of said lever is configured to be gripped for pivotal movement of said lever to facilitate disengagement of said stud from said resilient member.

19. A system for providing releasable engagement between two structures and for maintaining a predetermined gap between said structures, said system comprising:

a plurality of substantially cylindrical studs mounted on one of said structures and extending outwardly therefrom, each of said studs extending along an axis and having a groove oriented at an angle to said axis, and

7 a plurality of radial springs mounted adjacent surfaces of the other
8 one of said structures, each of said radial springs being mounted at a location
9 corresponding to an axis of one of said studs when said structures are adjacent one
10 another, and each of said radial springs having an outer surface contacting a surface of
11 said structure to prevent movement of said outer surface radially outwardly, and each of
12 said radial springs also having an inner surface movable radially outwardly;

13 said inner surface of each of said radial springs defining an inner
14 diameter smaller than the maximum diameter of said studs when said radial springs are
15 relaxed, and said inner surface of each of said radial springs being configured to expand
16 radially outwardly to permit passage of one of said studs when said radial springs are
17 expanded, each of said radial springs being configured to engage said groove of one of
18 said studs for releasable engagement of said stud, thereby providing releasable
19 engagement between said structures, and thereby maintaining said predetermined gap
20 between said structures.

1 20. The system as recited in claim 19, further comprising a release
2 member attached adjacent at least one of said radial springs and having a surface
3 positioned for contact with an end surface of said stud, said surface of said release
4 member being moveable along said axis of said stud to urge said stud out from said
5 radial spring.

1 21. The system as recited in claim 20, said release member being
2 selected from the group consisting of a button and a lever.

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